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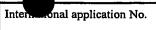
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference R 42132 FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of Int Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/II)				
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)		Priority date (day/month/year)	
PCT/AT2003/000254	03 September 2003 (0	3.09.2003)	06 September 2002 (06.09.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or n B23K 11/31, 11/25	ational classification and IPC			
Applicant F	RONIUS INTERNATIO	ONAL GMB	Н	
This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.				
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	4 sheets, include	ding this cover s	sheet.	
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of sheets.				
This report contains indications rela	ting to the following items:			
	ing to the tenewing nome.			
	I Basis of the report			
II Priority	II Priority			
III Non-establishment	of opinion with regard to nove	elty, inventive st	ep and industrial applicability	
IV Lack of unity of inv	ention			
V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement				
VI Certain documents cited				
VII Certain defects in the international application				
VIII Certain observations on the international application				
		·		
Date of submission of the demand Date of completion of this report				
30 January 2004 (30.01.2004)		08 (October 2004 (08.10.2004)	
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Aut	Authorized officer		
Facsimile No.	Tele	phone No.		

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998)





PCT/AT2003/000254

I. Basis	of the report			
1. With	regard to the elements of the international application:*			
\boxtimes	the international application as originally filed			
\boxtimes	the description:			
	pages 1-9	, as originally filed		
	pages	, filed with the demand		
	pages, filed with the letter of			
\boxtimes	the claims:			
<u> </u>	pages 1-12	, as originally filed		
	pages, as amended (together with			
	pages	, filed with the demand		
	pages, filed with the letter of			
\boxtimes	the drawings:			
لاست	•	, as originally filed		
	pages	, filed with the demand		
	pages, filed with the letter of			
Γ7.	the sequence listing part of the description:			
, اـــــا		as arisinally filed		
		, as originally filed , as originally filed		
	pages, filed with the letter of			
the in Thes	regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Anternational application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. The elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). The language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary exor 55.3). The regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international aminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: Contained in the international application in written form. filled together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to been furnished.	which is: 23.1(b)). carnination (under Rule 55.2 and/ nal application, the international to beyond the disclosure in the		
4.	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages the claims, Nos the drawings, sheets/fig	show how and designed to		
5 * Repl	This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** *	n under Article 14 are referred to		
and	his report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not of 70.17). replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed			

INTERNATIONAL PREDIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Int bnal application No		
PCT / AT	03/0025	1
LCT/W	03/0023	7

V.	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
	citations and explanations supporting such statement

1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
		Claims		NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12	YES
		Claims	-	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
		Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP-A-0 830 914.

Document D1 is considered to be the closest prior art for the subject matter of claim 1. D1 discloses the features of the preamble.

The subject matter of claim 1 differs therefore from the known method by the features of the characterizing portion.

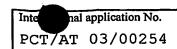
The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of detecting a spot weld in a simple manner.

The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

The use of a tape for monitoring quality which is inserted between the electrodes and the metal sheets cannot be derived from the prior art.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT



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Claims 2-12 ar				
meet the PCT r	equirements	for novelty	and inventive	e step.
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